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## Uganda

### Grain and Feed

### Wheat Update Report

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#### **Report Highlights:**

**The Ugandan market size is estimated at about 120,000 MT per year. The country's production is estimated at 2,000 MT and the balance is met through imports, mainly Australia and Argentina wheat. The Market of Title II remains strong. Opportunities exist in the wheat growing industry since most of the wheat milled is imported.**

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Includes PSD changes: No  
Includes Trade Matrix: No  
Unscheduled Report  
Nairobi [KE1], UG

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## Executive Summary

Wheat production estimates in Uganda range between 2,000 - 10,000 mt/year depending on source. The Ugandan market size is estimated at about 120,000 MT per year. Most of the wheat consumed in country is sourced from Australia and Argentina. The market of Title II HRW remains strong - in the 25,000 mt/year range.

Opportunities exist in the wheat growing industry since most of the wheat milled is imported. The demand for wheat flour has been increasing with the growth of the bakery industries. However local infrastructure is inadequate to support substantial expansion.

## Production

In Uganda production estimates vary from organization to organization. The Ministry of Agriculture officials estimate production at about 10,000 MT for the year 2001 and forecast a further 2,000 MT tonnes increase for the year 2002. The millers and other analysts estimate production at about 2,000 Mt per year.

All wheat produced in Uganda comes from Kapchorwa district near the eastern border with Kenya on the slopes of Mt Elgon (about 10,000 - 11,000 feet ASL) Production is based on broadcast seeding with saved seed, minimal input use, hand sickle harvesting, ox-drawn and /or hand soil preparation and small engine powered rotary threshers. There are no operational combines, and most of the small holders plots (1-5 acres) would not support combines due to steepness and plot size. Annual yield is estimated by the district Agricultural Officer as 2.0 MT/HA (MY 1992-1998), although no objective yield surveys are carried out. For comparison, Kenya's annual average wheat is about 2.9 MT/H These estimates are drawn from data and field visits of FAS/Nairobi.

There is no evidence of any other production area in Uganda except Kapchorwa district.

## Consumption

Of the amount produced, an estimate 20 percent is consumed on farm. This does not include saved seed, which is broadcast at the rate of about 110kg/acre according to local officials. A sizeable proportion of the production is transported to Kenya, mainly because prices in Kenya are usually higher. It is estimated that an average of about 1,700 mt available for commercial purposes, 1,000 mt probably goes to Kenya.

## Wheat milling

There are an estimated four- five millers in country. The millers indicate a total market size of about 120,000 mt of wheat per year. Monetized wheat under PL 480, Title II (HRW) is the only U.S. wheat entering the market presently, the balance being Australian, Argentine, with a bit of Pakistani, Turkish, etc, coming in occasionally.

Smaller amounts of German flour are imported by bigger bakeries in containers. Estimates of this volume are less than 1,000 mt annually. Occasional imports for home baking from Kenya also occur. Flour exports to rebel-held South Sudan and Eastern portions of the Democratic Republic of Congo occur, but are usually informal and thus are very

difficult to quantify.

The market of Title 11 HRW remains strong - in the 25,000 mt/year range. Mostly it is used for blending.